This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims:

1-8. CANCELED.

9. (NEW) A medical instrument probe configured for insertion into a patient's body orifice, comprising:

a probe wall configured to be placed adjacent a patient's body tissue when the probe is inserted into the patient's body orifice; and

a plurality of discrete depressions disposed substantially along the elongated length of the probe wall and being configured to define, when covered by the patient's body tissue, a plurality of discrete, generally thermally insulative air pockets between the patient's body tissue and the probe wall when the probe is inserted into the patient's body orifice.

10. (NEW) The probe of claim 9, wherein the plurality of depressions are elongated along the elongated length of the probe wall.

11. (NEW) The probe of claim 9, wherein the plurality of depressions are randomly disposed substantially along the elongated length of the probe wall.

12. (NEW) The probe of claim 9, further comprising a plurality of ridges separating the plurality of depressions.

13. (NEW) The probe of claim 9, wherein the probe wall is fabricated of a material having a generally low thermal conductivity.

14. (NEW) A medical instrument probe configured for insertion into a patient's body orifice, comprising:

a probe wall configured to be placed adjacent a patient's body tissue when the probe is inserted into the patient's body orifice;

a probe cover enveloping the probe wall; and

a plurality of discrete depressions disposed substantially along the elongated length of the probe wall and defining, in combination with the probe cover, a plurality of discrete, thermally insulative air pockets between the patient's body tissue and the probe wall when the probe is inserted into the patient's body orifice.

15. (NEW) The probe of claim 14, wherein the plurality of depressions are elongated along the elongated length of the probe wall.

16. (NEW) The probe of claim 14, wherein the plurality of depressions are randomly disposed substantially along the elongated length of the probe wall.

17. (NEW) The probe of claim 14, further comprising a plurality of ridges separating the plurality of depressions.

18. (NEW) The probe of claim 14, wherein the probe wall is fabricated of a material having a generally low thermal conductivity.

19. (NEW) The probe of claim 14, wherein the probe cover is fabricated of a polymer material.

20. (NEW) A medical instrument probe configured for insertion into a patient's body orifice, comprising:

a probe wall configured to be placed adjacent a patient's body tissue when the probe is inserted into the patient's body orifice;

an outer layer supported by the probe wall; and

a plurality of discrete depressions disposed substantially along the elongated length of the probe wall and defining, in combination with the outer layer, a plurality of discrete, generally thermally insulative air pockets between the patient's body tissue and the probe wall when the probe is inserted into the patient's body orifice.

21. (NEW) The probe of claim 20, wherein the plurality of depressions are elongated along the elongated length of the probe wall.

22. (NEW) The probe of claim 20, wherein the plurality of depressions are randomly disposed substantially along the elongated length of the probe wall.

23. (NEW) The probe of claim 20, further comprising a plurality of ridges separating the plurality of depressions.

24. (NEW) The probe of claim 20, wherein the probe wall is fabricated of a material having a generally low thermal conductivity.

25. (NEW) A method of providing thermal insulation in a medical instrument probe configured for insertion into a patient's body orifice, the probe having a probe wall configured to be placed adjacent a patient's body tissue when the probe is inserted into the patient's body orifice, the method comprising:

providing a plurality of discrete depressions disposed substantially along the elongated length of the probe wall to define a plurality of discrete, generally thermally insulative air pockets between the patient's body tissue and the probe wall when the probe is inserted into the patient's body orifice.

26. (NEW) The method of claim 25, wherein the plurality of depressions are elongated along the elongated length of the probe wall.

27. (NEW) The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of randomly disposing the plurality of depressions substantially along the elongated length of the probe wall.

28. (NEW) The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of forming a plurality of ridges separating the plurality of depressions.

29. (NEW) The method of claim 25, wherein the probe wall is fabricated of a material having a generally low thermal conductivity.